

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-19, without prejudice, amend claims 20 and 26, and add new claims 29-31 as follows:

1-19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently amended) A method for manufacturing a three-phase transformer, the method comprising the steps of:

- (i) producing two substantially plate-like elements of a magnetic circuit of the transformer from amorphous strips, wherein each of the plate-like elements being produced as a planar toroid of a desired shape by winding at least one amorphous strip about a central hole;
- (ii) annealing each of the planar toroids ~~in a magnetic field, a temperature of the annealing process being up to about 550°C;~~
- (iii) impregnating ~~fixing~~ each of the annealed planar toroids by a binding material ~~impregnation~~;
- (iv) producing three column-like elementary circuits of said magnetic circuit from amorphous strips, wherein each of the column-like elementary circuits is produced as a toroid of a desired height by winding at least one amorphous strip about a central axis;

- (v) annealing each of the column-like toroids ~~in a magnetic field, a temperature of the annealing process being up to about 550°C;~~
- (vi) impregnating ~~fixing~~ each of the annealed column-like toroids by ~~impregnation~~ a binding material;
- (vii) forming each of the ~~fixed~~ impregnated column-like toroids with a radial slot extending along the height of the column-like toroid and filled with an insulating material;
- (viii) mounting a coil block on each of the column-like toroids with the slot to form the corresponding one of the three phases of the transformer;
- (ix) attaching mounting opposite butt-end surfaces of each of the column-like toroids ~~with the coil blocks between to~~ the plate-like elements, respectively, and arranging the column-like toroids in a spaced-apart parallel relationship ~~of the column-like toroids~~, such as to form the magnetic circuit of the transformer as a spatial symmetrical structure about a central axis of the transformer presenting the closed magnetic circuit for magnetic flux propagation therethrough, spacers between the elements of the magnetic circuit of the transformer being filled with a material containing a magnetic powder.

21. (Original) The method according to Claim 20, wherein in step (i) the strip is secured to a mandrel having a triangular cross-section and rotatable about its central axis,

and, upon obtaining a desired size of the plate-like element by rotating the mandrel, the element is fixed in the obtained state and excess of the strip is cut off.

22. (Original) The method according to Claim 20, wherein the fixing of the planar toroids and of the column-like toroids also includes welding of the ends of the amorphous strips.

23. (Original) The method according to Claim 20, wherein in step (i) several amorphous strips are wound having different widths, the total width of the strips being equal to the desired height of the plate-like element.

24. (Original) The method according to Claim 23, wherein the strips in the adjacent layers of the plate-like element are displaced from each other such that the strips of one layer overlap a gap between the strips of the adjacent layer.

25. (Original) The method according to Claim 20, wherein in step (iv) each of the column-like toroids is produced by mounting several toroidal elements on top of each other.

26. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 20, wherein in step (iv) said amorphous ~~ribbon~~ strips have different widths, the total width of the strips being equal to the desired height of the toroid.

27. (Original) The method according to Claim 26, wherein the strips in the adjacent layers of the toroid are displaced from each other such that the strips of one layer overlap a gap between the strips of the adjacent layer.

28. (Original) A three-phase transformer comprising a magnetic circuit and three coil blocks, the transformer being manufactured according to the method of Claim 20.

29. (New) The method according to Claim 20, wherein the annealing of each of the toroids is carried out in a magnetic field.

30. (New) The method according to Claim 20, wherein temperature of the annealing process is up to about 550°C.

31. (New) The method according to Claim 20, wherein in step (iii) said annealed planar toroids are impregnated by a first binding material, and in step (vi) said annealed column-like toroids are impregnated by a second binding material.